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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 34th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 96 : SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

Draft resolution on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/C.2/51/L.23)

1. Mrs. DENGO (Costa Rica), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the primary objective of the draft resolution was to encourage an exchange of information and experience and elaborate mechanisms that could improve contacts between the principal actors in development. In that regard, informal round tables were an effective means of promoting debate on communication for development at the grass-roots level, and provided an opportunity for considering communication techniques, methods and technologies to facilitate people's participation. The action-oriented draft resolution recognized the importance of disseminating information on United Nations programmes and initiatives in general and stressed that decision-makers should include communication for development as an integral component in every development project. It recommended that the next informal round table should be held in the Latin American and Caribbean region and reaffirmed the importance of international cooperation in that regard, as well as the need for financial cooperation and the transfer of technology. In view of the importance of those issues, the Group of 77 and China hoped that the draft resolution would receive the necessary support.

(b) AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(ii) RENEWAL OF THE DIALOGUE ON STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP (continued)

Draft resolution on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/C.2/51/L.21)

2. Mrs. CHAVEZ (Costa Rica), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and Colombia on behalf of the countries members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that, in its resolution 50/122 of 20 December 1995, the General Assembly agreed to hold a high-level dialogue for a period of two days at its fifty-first session on the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications. Since it had not been possible to hold that dialogue, the draft resolution supported the Secretary-General's recommendation to defer it to the fifty-second session of the Assembly and entrusted the President of the Assembly with the mandate of determining the date, modalities and focus of the discussion through consultation with Member States not later than February 1997. The draft resolution demonstrated the international community's decision to recognize that, at a time of increasing interdependence, the promotion of development called for a constructive dialogue based on mutual interests and benefits, shared responsibility and genuine interdependence. The spirit of partnership so often expressed in many non-governmental forums in recent years would be strengthened by the Assembly's holding of that dialogue.

(d) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (A/C.2/51/L.19)

3. Mrs. DENGO (Costa Rica), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and Colombia on behalf of the countries members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, stressed the importance of the International Conference on Population and Development and the inherent link between demographic trends and development trends. The draft resolution reiterated the importance of implementing the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference, which would constitute a framework for implementing strategies of other international conferences held since 1990. Although the goals of the Programme of Action were ambitious, the decisions that would be taken in the next few decades would have an impact on the prosperity of nations. For that reason, the sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would be supported by all regional groups.

(g) CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development (A/C.2/51/L.22)

4. Mrs. DENGO (Costa Rica), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the goal of the draft was to stimulate international debate on culture and development, especially in connection with the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, entitled Our Creative Diversity. The Group of 77 and China stressed the particular importance and common interest of the issue, and encouraged all Member States to support the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 3.20 p.m.